

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2019

LCO No. 9130



Offered by:

REP. DEMICCO, 21st Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6637

File No. 183

Cal. No. 133

"AN ACT REQUIRING AN INVASIVE SPECIES STAMP FOR THE OPERATION OF A MOTORBOAT ON THE WATERS OF THE STATE."

- Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. (NEW) (Effective January 1, 2020) (a) Any person who
- 4 registers a vessel or renews a vessel registration pursuant to section 15-
- 5 144 of the general statutes and who intends to operate or allow such
- 6 vessel to be operated on the waters of the state shall concomitantly, in
- 7 addition to the remittance of any fee required pursuant to section 15-
- 8 144 of the general statutes, pay an Aquatic Invasive Species fee of five
- 9 dollars. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall cause all revenues
- 10 collected pursuant to this section to be deposited in the Connecticut
- 11 Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account established in section
- 12 14-21aa of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
- 13 (b) Any person who intends to operate or allow a vessel to be 14 operated on the inland waters of the state that is registered in another

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15 state shall, prior to such operation, pay an Aquatic Invasive Species fee 16 of twenty dollars to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental 17 Protection. Such fees shall be paid annually and such payment shall be 18 valid until the last day of December of such year. The Commissioner of 19 Energy and Environmental Protection shall cause all revenues 20 collected pursuant to this subsection to be deposited in the Connecticut 21 Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account established in section 22 14-21aa of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Any person 23 who operates a vessel on the inland waters of the state in violation of 24 the provisions of this subsection shall have committed an infraction 25 and shall be fined not more than eighty-five dollars.

- 26 Sec. 2. Section 14-21aa of the general statutes is repealed and the 27 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):
- 28 (a) There is established an account to be known as the "Connecticut 29 Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account". The Connecticut 30 Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account shall be a separate, 31 nonlapsing account of the General Fund. Any moneys required by law 32 to be deposited in the account shall be deposited in and credited to the 33 Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and Ponds Preservation account. The 34 account shall be available to the Commissioner of Energy and 35 Environmental Protection for (1) restoration and rehabilitation of lakes, 36 rivers and ponds in the state; (2) programs of the Department of 37 Energy and Environmental Protection for the eradication of aquatic 38 invasive species and cyanobacteria blooms; (3) education and public 39 outreach programs to enhance the public's understanding of the need 40 to protect and preserve the state's lakes, rivers and ponds; (4) 41 allocation of grants to state and municipal agencies and not-for-profit 42 organizations to conduct research and to provide public education and 43 public awareness to enhance understanding and management of the 44 natural resources of the state's lakes, rivers and ponds; (5) provision of 45 funds for all services that support the protection and conservation of 46 the state's lakes, rivers and ponds; and (6) reimbursement of the 47 Department of Motor Vehicles for the cost of producing, issuing, 48 renewing and replacing Save Our Lakes commemorative number

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49 plates, including administrative expenses, pursuant to section 14-21z.

- 50 (b) The commissioner may receive private donations to the 51 Connecticut Lakes, <u>Rivers</u> and Ponds Preservation account and any 52 such receipts shall be deposited in the account.
- 53 (c) The commissioner may provide for the reproduction and 54 marketing of the Save Our Lakes commemorative number plate image 55 for use on clothing, recreational equipment, posters, mementoes, or 56 other products or programs deemed by the commissioner to be 57 suitable as a means of supporting the Connecticut Lakes, Rivers and 58 Ponds Preservation account. Any funds received by the commissioner 59 from such marketing shall be deposited in the Connecticut Lakes, 60 Rivers and Ponds Preservation account.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, not less than
 eighty per cent of any funds deposited into the Connecticut Lakes,
 Rivers and Ponds Preservation account pursuant to section 1 of this act
 shall be utilized for the purposes described in subdivisions (2) to (4),
 inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2020	New section
Sec. 2	January 1, 2020	14-21aa